

The Downfall of Licinius

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at once to f**et the words off by heart. When the armies moved against CHIC another in battle array, the legions of Licinius at a jjivcn signal laid clown their shields, removed their helmets* and, lifting their hands to heaven, recited in unison these rhythmic sentences with their strangely effective repetitions, Lactautius tells us that the murmur of the prayer wan borne upon the ears of the doomed army of the enemy. Tltm, after a brief colloquy between the rivals, in which Maximin refused to offer or ajree to any concession, because lie believed that the soldiers of Licinius would come over to him in a body, the armies char^rd and tin: standard of Maximin went

ll in a striking story, am! we may easily understand that Lieiwu-i, frrsh fiom hi-* meeting with Constan-tinr and with vivid recollection of how valiantly this ,S'www//v /V&..< had fought fur hi*; ally against Maxeutius \\ould be ready to brlievr beforehand in the efficacy *?f any supernatural warning con-vcyrtl by any Mipnnatutal "minister of grace/* We* nuy ii« 41% |ni»t the spU'iuliil vagueness of the Drily invoked in th«* prayer. Lactantttft, < »f course, ciiitisH that tSii'i Mu-t Hijjh and Holy (toil is now* othrr th»m tlu* tJinl of the Ctui*tian*i» but there wa^. n«*lh»'n;; t«» prevent flir v*»taiv of Jupiter, of Apollo, «*! Mitiua, *»f li.i»ii_tia «4 Halrnu *, fiu.n thiukinj*; that lir w»i'4 inspl'>tin | t!>r ai*J «*t hi«o*An f.ttitili.ir deity.

Mavuuist llrtl f^ifi ti e M nit* of i4!\$i.t«;r a « th«*uj(h lir It i«l Itrrsi pm .||n| h) all lli^ Cabiii. Throwing 4%i4^ hi* pjrp!^4 a'id 4 *tuni» ; the jjatb of a »»lavr it i» L.u t